

# THE NEW YORK HERALD

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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1862.

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## IMPORTANT FROM VIRGINIA.

### Another Daring Exploit of Rebel Cavalry.

### Successful Raid Upon Manassas Junction and Bristow Station.

### The Railroad Guard Overpowered and Artillery Seized and Turned Upon Our Men.

### ARMY STORES DESTROYED.

### The Fighting Still Going On at Manassas at Last Accounts.

### News from the Main Body of the Union Army.

### Gallant Affair of Colonel Rosse, of the Twenty-eighth.

### The Experience of Another Special Correspondent.

### What He Lost and What the Staff Officers Saved from the Rebel Raid at Catlett's Station.

### The Repulse of the Rebel Advance by Gen. Sigel.

### What General Stuart Gained by His Cavalry Raid.

### Sigel Holding the Post of Danger and Honor.

### THE RAID ON MANASSAS.

### OUR SPECIAL ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

### NEAR MANASSAS JUNCTION, AUGUST 27, 1862.

### Another Raid of the Rebels—An Exciting Day—A Regiment of Cavalry Attacked Our Position at Manassas—Retreat on Centerville—Number and Character of the Attacking Force—Where They Came From—False Reports—News from the Front—General Sigel's Orders of Eight Hundred Rebels, &c.

### We have had an exciting day of it, as I will relate. The guard at Manassas consisted of about one thousand men, which with the army long in advance, would be considered sufficient to hold it and look out for everything in the neighborhood. We fancied ourselves secure enough, but had not neglected the usual precautions to prevent a surprise.

### At ten o'clock this forenoon the random firing of our pickets gave warning that something was wrong, and but a few minutes elapsed before they came running in, closely followed by cavalry, which we at once recognized to be anything but friends. Not knowing the force we were attacked by, and having no means of discovering, retreat became the order of the day, and excellent time was made on our side.

### The surprise, or rather the approach, was so sudden that no defense could be made. As it was, our retreat was not quick enough; for the rebel cavalry succeeded in capturing a number of men, and committing any amount of depredations. Our force was composed of new recruits, and it could be hardly expected they should show front to an enemy that were unknown in force. Our people fell back some seven miles, where another guard was stationed, who succeeded in stopping the retreat until the enemy's force was known.

### It was afterwards discovered that the force which attacked us was a regiment of Stuart's cavalry, under Fitzhugh Lee, about eight hundred strong. After they had driven us from our position, they proceeded to destroy three or four trains of empty cars which were at the junction, and they succeeded in accomplishing their object, besides which they destroyed everything of value they could find in the neighborhood.

### As soon as their work was completed they proceeded to enjoy themselves, the women of the neighborhood having provided an entertainment for them. While they were doing this, the rebel cavalry, who had been taken prisoners, managed to escape, and from them we learned the force and character of the enemy.

### Now that the horse is out of the stable, General Sigel proceeds to lock the door, by ordering a force to Manassas that will be able to protect the point and prevent in future any more visits of a similar nature.

### The rebel cavalry are now following—great on the dash—here to-day and there to-morrow. One never knows when to expect them next. They are teaching us lessons in energy and what can be accomplished by rapid movements. Being not scholars, we shall soon learn, and their lessons will be not thrown away, for we shall play the same game over long, when they least expect it.

### It is impossible to describe all the particulars of this affair. That it was disastrous to no one can gainsay. Further information from the field by those who have seen more of it may better tell the affair, but we think not.

### Our men who retreated said that there were fully five thousand rebels making the attack, but this is all say—nothing more. Those who were in the enemy's hands, and afterwards escaped, are the best able to judge, and they all declare that the force was about a thousand, and did not exceed eight hundred.

### The only question is how they got there. No one appears to be able to solve the question. With our army in advance, how did this band of marauders manage to get between us and Washington? If affairs of this kind can be managed by the rebels, two or three times a week, we may indeed feel "shaky" as to the final result. We cannot afford, as Yankees, to be outwitted in this manner more than two or three times.

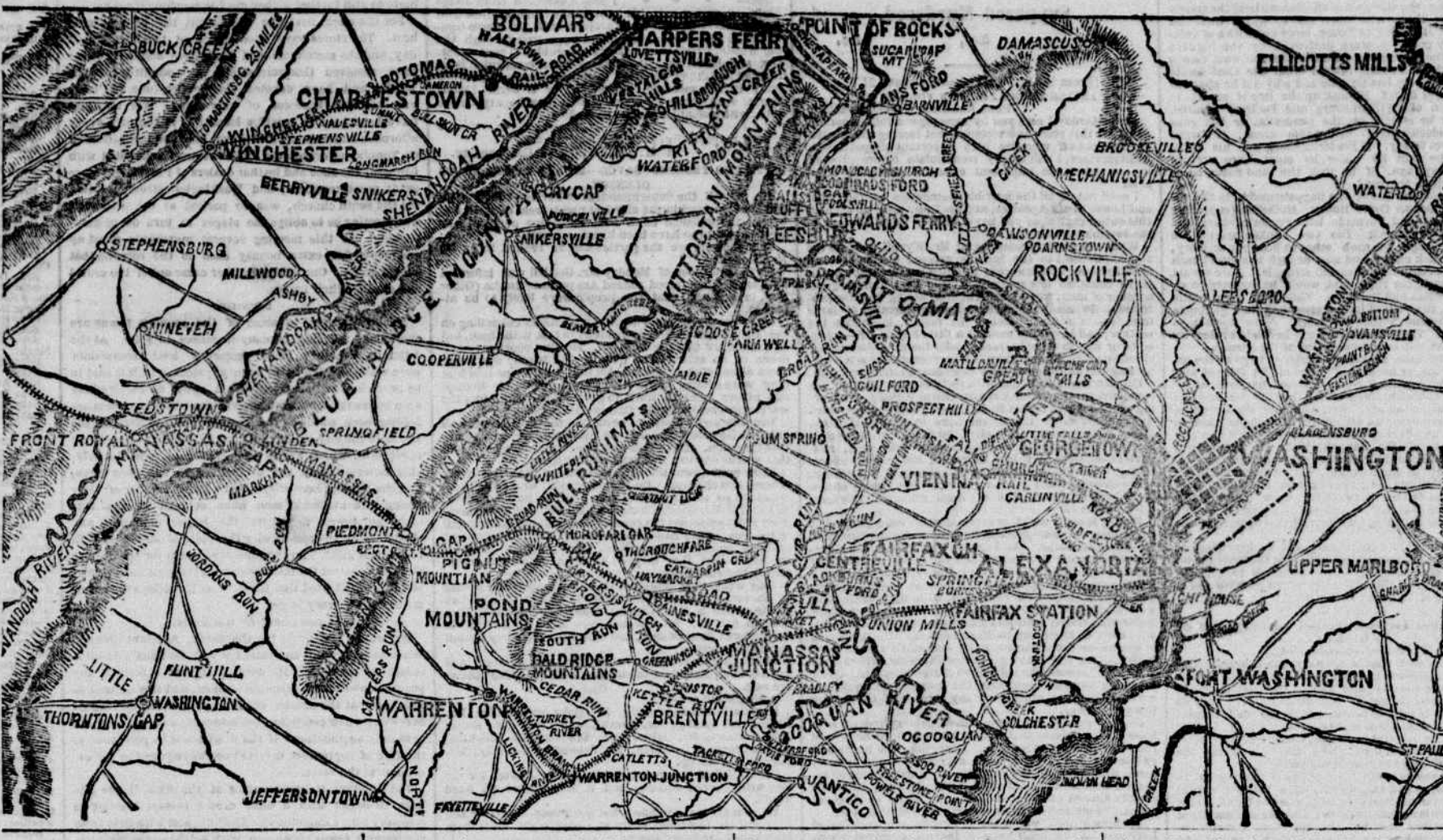
### It can hardly be possible that the rebels are in force beyond Warrenton. They may be, however, for they possess the means to move large masses of men, and subvert them quicker and better than we do. Can this cavalry attack be the forerunner of an attack in force from that direction? We hardly know what to think, much less say, and must quietly wait for something else to turn up before we can form an opinion.

### We had news from the front prior to this raid up to last evening, and some very interesting intelligence. On the night of the 25th Colonel Rosse, of the California, not yet received a command, but who let the Twenty-eighth regiment after the death of Colonel Dansey, against the Republicans with a small party of men, and penetrated the enemy's lines to within a hundred yards of General Lee's headquarters. He was compelled to cut his way back, without any killed, but had several wounded, himself among the number. He reports several batteries of light artillery in position, having proved them as he forced his way to the river. At the point at which he crossed the enemy were in force, and from six to ten thousand.

### The reports from the main body of our army are very satisfactory. Officers direct from headquarters now that it is all safe in point of numbers and position, and on duty any attack. The bulk of the men all cavalry, not yet received a command, but who let the Twenty-eighth regiment after the death of Colonel Dansey, against the Republicans with a small party of men, and penetrated the enemy's lines to within a hundred yards of General Lee's headquarters. He was compelled to cut his way back, without any killed, but had several wounded, himself among the number. He reports several batteries of light artillery in position, having proved them as he forced his way to the river. At the point at which he crossed the enemy were in force, and from six to ten thousand.

### We occupy the north bank of the Rappahannock, and the enemy may attempt to cross it, if he chooses; but we doubt, from all that we hear, if he will make the attempt.

## THE REBEL RAID ON MANASSAS.



It is said that he does not appear in any great force on the south side, and that the opinion prevails he has retreated on Gordonsville. Does this report sound well? Is it a good omen that no enemy is to be seen in front? Is it possible that he has retreated when we have strong cavalry attack in the rear? Does it not seem more probable that we may hear of him next on our flank or in our rear?

After the affair of this morning we may expect a visit from the devil in any direction. If they were to drop from the skies it would not surprise us, even if they came without wings.

It is hoped among us that some movement will be made before long whereby the current can be turned that is now running against us. We must have a victory soon, and without the aid of a guano, that will have a telling effect, or European opinion will be stronger than ever against us, and the rebels will have it all their own way with foreign governments.

I had almost forgotten to mention the dashing affair of General Sigel the other day, whereby he bagged eight hundred rebels. Two hundred escaped, however, on account of heavy reinforcements coming up to the rebels, preventing sufficient guard being placed over them. The general waited very quietly until they ran into the trap, when he sprang it, scoring the lot.

It cannot be many days before news of the most important character will be forwarded from about this point. A tremendous battle is about to be fought, exactly where no one can tell; but it cannot be many miles distant from the point at which I am penning this letter. It will be a battle that all others fought on this continent will sink into insignificance in comparison with, and may decide the war. I am hopeful. I know our strength, the spirit of our troops, the capacity of our leaders; and I believe that we are to be successful. The army we have not far from where I stand is second to none in the world, and man for man, they cannot be whipped, nor do I believe they can with three to two against them.

Our veteran troops are now in the van. The new troops and those who have been a few months in the field carry a less important position. A front such as we have cannot be broken, and when the enemy find this out, and move the other way, I am confident there will be no stop until we are in Richmond.

### THE PLANS OF THE REBELS.

THE RAID ON MANASSAS—CAPTURE OF FEDERAL CAVALRY AT WATERFORD.

[From the Baltimore American, August 25.]

We learn from gentlemen who arrived here last evening from London county that yesterday was a day of great excitement in that vicinity, as well as in the valley. The guerrilla bands were scouring the country, and White's rebel cavalry—supposed to be the same which made the dash on Saturday last, on the Winchester road, and destroyed a train of cars—have appeared at Waterford, a short distance from London, capturing a company of cavalry stationed there, with all their horses and arms. The men, we learn, were freed, and the rebels made good their escape with their booty. They were overpowered by superior numbers after a sharp fight, in which a number were wounded on both sides.

There was great excitement among the people throughout London county on intelligence being received of the raid on the previous night on Manassas Junction. It was rumored that the cavalry force which operated at Manassas was approaching Leesburg, and that the advance guard of the rebels was already in the county, at Morrisville. The following letter from our correspondent at Berlin confirms the statement.

BERLIN, August 27, 1862.

MESSRS. EDITORS OF THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.—

Another dash was made by White's cavalry on Captain Meade's camp, in the town of Waterford, early this morning, and resulted in killing and capturing the most of the federal cavalry under Captain Meade. The capture made him escape with some others. The greatest excitement prevails in London county. People don't know what to do or where to go. There are reports of thousands of Confederate soldiers marching to the Junction (Manassas).

As to the truth of the Waterford raid, that has been confirmed. As to the great moving on the Manassas Junction, it comes from such a source that it appears credible.

[From the National Intelligencer, August 25.]

We are enabled to add to the above a portion of a despatch received yesterday afternoon at the Committee General's office from an officer at Alexandria. The despatch relates to supplies and movements of troops, which we are not at liberty to give. It concludes as follows:

ALEXANDRIA, August 27—12:30 P. M.

Captain Meade's son is here; says his father is either killed or a prisoner, and stores destroyed. I have two trains, but cannot get out, as the road is probably destroyed. They are fighting at Manassas now. A great many troops are going out to regulate matters.

### THE REBEL RAID AND SERIOUS RAILROAD COLLISION.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, August 28, 1862.

try again, and men, women and children are hurrying from their supposed danger, leaving everything to destruction, while each gives fresh impetus to the flying rumors of rebel exploits round about Washington. As Fairfax Court House scarcely an individual remains, everybody having precipitately vanished save a few sympathizers with the rebels, who are assiduously preparing to entertain the cavalry in the most approved style. Washington was early set agog this morning with rumors concerning the raid upon Bristow and Manassas, and as the frightened populace came in the greatest exaggerations began to circulate, until a knowledge of facts became almost unobtainable, while nothing seemed too marvellous for Washington credulity. As circumstances developed themselves the excitement subsided somewhat throughout the city, though not a little uneasiness prevails concerning the safety of other portions of the road much more important. It seems that a large body of our own troops had passed through Bristow just previous to the arrival of the rebels, who commenced their operations upon the train almost before the rear of our column had disappeared. Their first business was to build a large fire on the track. The train which left Warrenton Junction about six o'clock P. M. arrived at Bristow just as the fire had got to burning brightly, and dashed the brand from the rails, passing on without damage, though a sharp fire was opened upon the cars by the whole line of rebels upon the bank. All haste was made for Manassas, where the troops were apprised of the proximity of the enemy, and preparations made for a vigorous defence. Seven miles this side of Manassas a large train of cars had halted upon the track for water, and, hearing the train which had been fired upon approaching, the brakemen went back with signal lights to prevent a collision. The engineer, seeing the lights, supposed it to be a train of the enemy, and, jerking open the throttle valve, dashed like lightning upon the other train, piling car upon car in an indescribable wreck. Three engines were found unbroken, and these were sent back upon the road to stop the train. One in a few moments, while the few unengaged valiant strove in the darkness to find the killed and wounded. The engineer of the colliding train was found mortally wounded; but the fireman and several of the brakemen had disappeared, together with a large number of sick, all of whom were probably thrown off at the side of the road and killed. The survivors hastily uncoiled the front locomotive, with two cars that had escaped the general ruin, and, piling in such as could be found close at hand, came on to Alexandria. How many are killed and wounded is not yet known, but as there was a large number of sick on board, and the cars were crushed like eggshells, the loss of life must have been considerable. Reinforcements were immediately sent out to Manassas, and heavy firing has been heard in that direction during most of the day. As the enemy's force was composed of nothing but cavalry, they cannot remain long in that section, and have no doubt already retreated toward the Blue Ridge.

### CAPTURE OF THE MARYLAND CAVALRY.

OUR HARPERS FERRY CORRESPONDENCE.

HARPERS FERRY, August 27, 1862.

Capture of Part of a Company of Maryland Cavalry—Capture of Rebel Bunkers—They Are Sent to Baltimore, &c.

Rebel cavalry still continue their raids through this valley and neighboring counties. This morning we have the welcome news of the capture of nearly a whole company (about one hundred strong) of Maryland cavalry, belonging to the Home Guard, who were posted at Waterford, Loudoun county, Va., about eight miles from the nearest point of the Potomac river. The rebel cavalry (which is said to be a large number of strong) dashed in upon them before daylight this morning, in double quick time, carrying the pickets with them as they went, giving them no time to report the approach of the enemy. Our cavalry were quartered in a church, and it was said, though nobly, pouring into their ranks some deadly volleys as they approached, at one time repulsing their advance for a moment. I learn, from one who escaped, that it is likely not more than fifteen or twenty made their escape; the remainder were killed, wounded and taken prisoner. It was reported that Captain Meade was taken prisoner or killed; but a despatch to Colonel Miles, from Point of Rocks, announces his safety.

This morning we had the pleasure of seeing about fifteen or twenty bushwhackers on their way from Winchester to Baltimore. They were a motley, musty looking crew, and were captured in the vicinity of Winchester.

There is, as I am about to close, not more than about eighteen men of Captain Meade's cavalry were taken at Waterford, and they were released on parole of honor.

### THE EXPERIENCE OF ANOTHER OF OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

WASHINGTON, August 26, 1862.

The Appearance of the Troops at Warrenton—What the Rebels Gained by the Raid—Where They Came From—False Reports—News from the Front—General Sigel's Orders of Eight Hundred Rebels, &c.

I have just returned from the Union advanced lines on the Rappahannock, at two points. I visited a point near the railroad bridge on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, about nine miles from Warrenton Junction and eleven miles south of Warrenton. All was quiet in that direction, the rebels seemingly indisposed to attempt to make an impression upon our force there, where we have been strengthened. While at this point, about half-past eight o'clock yesterday morning, heavy artillery firing was heard in the direction of the Warrenton Springs, about five miles from Warrenton. I waited a point near the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, about nine miles from Warrenton Junction and eleven miles south of Warrenton. All was quiet in that direction, the rebels seemingly indisposed to attempt to make an impression upon our force there, where we have been strengthened. 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